## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 048639
12
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DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:JJCROWLEY:SK
APPROVED BY EUR/NE:JJCROWLEY
056502
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (COSGRAVE, LIAM), EI

SUBJECT: IRISH PRIME MINISTER VISIT TO THE US

REF: DUBLIN 372

- 1. WE NOTE FROM VERY USEFUL REFTEL THAT PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT INTEND TO MAKE CONDEMNATION OF FUND-RAISING IN US FOR PARA-MILITARIES IN NORTH THE PRIME THEME OF HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS DURING US VISIT. WE AGREE WITH HIS OPINION THAT OVER-EMPHASIS OF THIS TOPIC COULD PROVOKE UNHELPFUL REACTION FROM CERTAIN SECTOR OF IRISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE REGARD THE VISIT AS A UNIQUE OCCASION TO TRY TO GET THE ANTI-FUND-RAISING MESSAGE ACROSS TO CONCERNED BUT UNCOMMITTED IRISH-AMERICANS, THE CONGRESS, THE MEDIA AND TO PUBLIC OPINION IN GENERAL.
- 2. THEREFORE, DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS EMBASSY PASS ON OUR THOUGHTS TO THE GOI, MAKING CLEAR THAT WE SHARE THE PRIME MINISTER'S RESERVATION ABOUT PUTTING TOO MUCH STRESS ON THIS SUBJECT TO THE EXCLUSION OF OTHERS. WE BELIEVE, HOW-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EVER, THAT HE CAN BE VERY CONVINCING ON FUND-RAISING

(CERTAINLY MORE SO THAN UK SPOKESMEN) AND CAN DO THIS EFFECTIVELY IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT DO NOT NEGLECT OTHER ASPECTS OF IRISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. GIVEN THE CURRENT

EFFORTS OF THE IRISH CAUCUS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION TO TRY TO EQUATE THE MINUTEMEN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WITH TODAY'S IRA GUNMEN (PORTRAYING BOTH AS FIGHTERS AGAINST "BRITISH OPPRESSION"), THE PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENTS COULD PROVIDE A TIMELY AND USEFUL CORRECTIVE. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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